



## Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 77**

February Session, 2012

Substitute Senate Bill No. 269

*Senate, March 22, 2012*

The Committee on General Law reported through SEN. DOYLE of the 9th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT CONCERNING A STRUCTURAL ENGINEER LICENSE  
ENDORSEMENT AND REQUIRING CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL  
EDUCATION FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1      Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2013*) The Commissioner of  
2      Consumer Protection shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the  
3      provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, to: (1) Establish a  
4      structural engineer endorsement to the professional engineer license  
5      issued pursuant to chapter 391 of the general statutes; (2) establish an  
6      application process for such license endorsement; and (3) require  
7      professional engineers licensed pursuant to said chapter 391 to  
8      complete not less than fifteen hours per calendar year of continuing  
9      professional education, as specified by the State Board of Examiners  
10     for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>January 1, 2013</i>	New section
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***Statement of Legislative Commissioners:***

In subdivision (3), "391" was added after "chapter" for clarity.

**GL**        *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

### **OFA Fiscal Note**

#### **State Impact:**

<b>Agency Affected</b>	<b>Fund-Effect</b>	<b>FY 13 \$</b>	<b>FY 14 \$</b>
Consumer Protection, Dept.	GF - Cost	38,279	69,557
Comptroller Misc. Accounts (Fringe Benefits) <sup>1</sup>	GF - Cost	9,256	18,513

Note: GF=General Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

#### **Explanation**

The bill results in a cost to the state of \$47,535 in FY 13 and \$88,070 in FY 14. The costs are due to the need for a half-time Staff Attorney 1 (\$33,177) and a half-time License and Application Specialist (\$31,181), related one-time and continuing Other Expenses in the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP), plus fringe benefit costs. Costs in FY 13 are based on half-year funding of the required positions.

There are approximately 9,100 engineers in the state that would fall under the continuing education (CE) requirements of the bill. Approximately 60% of the engineers renew licensing on-line and 40% through paper submission. Each licensee would have to be audited to determine if they met the CE requirements annually. Currently, the DCP audits the CE requirements of electricians (13,700) and plumbers (7,300). The non-compliance of CE requirements for these professions ranges from 17.6% pre-audit to 1.7% post-audit. Based on these non-compliance rates approximately 1,600 engineers would originally be deemed non-compliant and 155 deemed non-compliant post-audit. Non-compliance would result in the acquisition of information and/or

<sup>1</sup> The fringe benefit costs for most state employees are budgeted centrally in accounts administered by the Comptroller. The estimated non-pension fringe benefit

compliance meetings with each non-compliant individual.

A one-time cost of \$400 in FY 13 would be required to configure the E-licensing (CAVU) system for the CE requirement. Additional funds of \$6,200 per year would be required for mailings and other related expenses in both FY 13 and FY 14.

### ***The Out Years***

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation except for the one-time configuration of the E-licensing system.

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cost associated with most personnel changes is 29.22% of payroll in FY 13 and FY 14.

**OLR Bill Analysis****sSB 269*****AN ACT CONCERNING A STRUCTURAL ENGINEER LICENSE  
ENDORSEMENT AND REQUIRING CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL  
EDUCATION FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the consumer protection commissioner to adopt regulations (1) establishing a structural engineer endorsement to the professional engineer license; (2) establishing an application process for such endorsement; and (3) requiring licensed professional engineers to annually complete at least 15 hours of continuing professional education, specified by the State Board of Examiners for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors. The commissioner must adopt these regulations in concurrence with the Uniform Administrative Procedure Act.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2013

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

General Law Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 17 Nay 0 (03/13/2012)